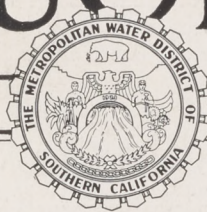


• COLORADO RIVER • AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XVII

JANUARY 1950

No. 1

Cabinet Officer Reports California Water Problem

Following a personal tour of California, Secretary of Commerce Sawyer this month reported to President Truman that shortage of water is "one of the most serious" problems affecting the economic development of California.

The Cabinet Officer's warning was promptly followed by a statement issued by Rep. Harry Sheppard (D) of Yucaipa, chairman of the California House delegation who said that Secretary Sawyer's report should be further reason for shelving the controversial billion dollar Central Arizona Project which would take California's share of Colorado River water and use it largely to benefit a few major land owners in Arizona.

Listing the effects of population and economic changes on the West Coast, Secretary Sawyer said in his report:

"Public officials in California also urged that the Federal Government assist in resolving the conflict between states over water rights in the lower Colorado basin in order to assure more adequate water and power supplies."

In his report Secretary Sawyer drew attention to the serious water problems that have confronted San Diego.

Commenting on the report, Rep. Sheppard said:

"Let me add that every other city and area in Southern California would be most seriously afflicted in the same way should California's legal share of Colorado River water be taken away to Arizona to grow crops that are already in surplus in this country.

"Southern California, is an area with a population of more than 4,000,000 people completely dependent upon their last water hole in the Colorado River for future demands. Yet some private landowners in Arizona wish to take it away from them, leaving them dry and California's economy threatened with disaster."

Colorado River Water Float in Rose Parade



"Colorado River Water—Our Children's Heritage" was the subject of the float entered in the annual Tournament of Roses parade by Los Angeles County. Shown on the float is Miss Barbara Ritchie, left, and Mrs. Beverly Karsz. The float was done in many types of multicolored flowers and attracted favorable comment from the vast throng of people who watched the parade.

With the water needs of Los Angeles County growing by leaps and bounds, the official County float shown in the Tournament of Roses Parade had as its theme "Colorado River Water—Our Children's Heritage".

A model of Hoover Dam, key structure on the Colorado River, was built across the back of the float. From this huge dam, Colorado River water can be seen flowing through the medium of blue colored flowers to its ultimate destination, the homes and industries of Southern California.

The Colorado River water subject depicted by the float was chosen as

most appropriate, due to the fact that there are now 28 cities and other areas in Southern California, having a combined population of nearly 4,000,000 persons, dependent upon that water for their growing population needs.

Above the dam, the words "Colorado River Water" were done in white flowers on a blue background. "Our Children's Heritage" was done in the reverse of these colors on the front of the float.

This message stresses the fact that California's Colorado River supply is the most valuable inheritance that those living and working here, the citizens of today, can leave to their children.

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 West Third Street
 Los Angeles, California

Published monthly in the interest of
 Field and Office Workers on the Colorado
 River Aqueduct, and for the information
 of all other citizens of the Metropolitan
 Water District.

Vol. XVII January 1950 No. 1

Pomona Voters Approve New Water District

The voters in a large section of Pomona Valley voted on January 10th by more than 42 to 1, in favor of establishing the Pomona Valley Municipal Water District. The voting results were 8665 "yes" and 203 "no".

The total vote cast at 25 polling places was 8876, more than 35 per cent of the 24,944 registered voters in Pomona, Claremont, LaVerne, San Dimas, Spadra, Walnut and other rural territories within the new district.

This election is the first of three necessary to bring the new district into the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The next election will be held for the purpose of selecting a district board of directors and the third will be for the purpose of voting on the question of annexing to the Metropolitan Water District.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will canvass the vote in the recent election and then divide the district into five areas in preparation for the election of one man from each of these areas.

The district's board of directors will elect its own officers and select a representative to sit on the Board of the Metropolitan Water District when and if that time arrives.

This election is the first step in the culmination of a campaign carried on by residents of that area who are concerned over the serious water problem which it faces. Last year, the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District gave informal consent to their application for annexation to the District.

The assessed valuation of the area within the new Pomona Valley Municipal Water District is estimated at nearly \$60,000,000, according to the Pomona Progress-Bulletin.

Orange County Buys More Colorado Water

Since the original sale of 10,000 acre feet of Colorado River water by the Metropolitan Water District to the Orange County Water District an additional 2,000 acre feet have also been purchased.

Late last year the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors authorized the sale of an extra 1,000 acre feet and on January 13th, ratified the sale of an additional 1,000 acre feet.

An acre foot of water is an engineering term used to describe that amount of water required to cover one acre of land to a depth of one foot, or approximately 325,000 gallons. The total sale to date to Orange County would therefore total more than 3,909,600,000 gallons.

The sales were made to the Orange County Water District as the result of a request made to the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors in which was outlined the serious water emergency faced by that county. A similar sale was made last year by the District

1949 Index Available

An index for subject matter and photographs which appeared in the AQUEDUCT NEWS in 1949 is now available. To obtain a copy, direct your request to "AQUEDUCT NEWS, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 306 West Third Street, Los Angeles 13, California."

to the city of Claremont and Claremont colleges. In both cases the sales involved unsoftened water and the price established by the Board of Directors was \$15 per acre foot.

President Vernon Heil of the Orange County Water District has been reported in the press as stating that his board is highly pleased with reports received from water users in that county as the result of the experimental underground sinking program.

Two major irrigation concerns, the Santa Ana Valley Irrigation Company and the Anaheim Union Water Company have been using some of the water which flowed downstream to their lines.

To supply this water to Orange County, a valve was opened on the Metropolitan Aqueduct at the point where the line crosses the Santa Ana River channel, thus providing a convenient means of delivery to Orange County.

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief engineer Julian Hinds, filed January 1950, covering District operations for December, 1949.)

Construction—The construction work on the pipe line to the West Basin is about 99 per cent completed. Overall construction on the Victoria Street Lateral is about 91 per cent completed. The installation of fixtures and furnishings, interior painting and an air conditioning system is all that remains to be done at the guest house addition in Gene Camp.

Hoover Dam—Delivery of energy to the Edison lines totalled 30,855,283 kwhrs with peak delivery of 110,000 kw. The water level in Lake Mead on Dec. 31st was at elevation 1,170.12 feet, 6.84 feet lower than on Nov. 30, but 5.12 feet higher than on Dec. 31st, 1948. Useable storage was 19,907,000 acre feet, a decrease of 879,000 acre feet for the month. The discharge of the Colorado River at Hoover Dam averaged 20,000 cubic feet per second, compared with 17,100 in November.

Parker Dam—The water level in Lake Havasu varied from a low at elevation 447.1 feet on Dec. 1st, to full reservoir on the last day of the month. The discharge of the river at Parker Dam averaged 19,100 cfs compared with 16,900 in November. Peak delivery to the Parker system was 48,000 kw.

Pumping—Pumping with one unit per plant was continuous until Dec. 30 when pumping was stopped preparatory to a system shutdown to permit necessary work during the period from Dec. 31st to Jan. 2nd.

Distribution—On Dec. 31st the water level at Lake Mathews was at elevation 1,351.78 feet representing live storage of 93,427 af, an increase for the month of 190 af.

Colorado River water was softened from an average hardness of 324 ppm to 125 ppm at an average rate of 47.5 cfs. The rate of inflow to the plant varied from a maximum of 77.2 to a minimum of 29.7 cfs. Total sales for the past six months were up 10.7 per cent and averaged 247 cfs, 119 cfs softened, 94 cfs to San Diego and the rest surplus water.

Purchasing—In December the purchasing division issued 264 purchase orders and nine purchase agreements totalling \$23,390.

Carload forwardings were three cars of lime and 33 cars of sodium chloride to the softening and filtration plant.

Two Major Pipe Lines Nearing Completion

Two major pipe line projects undertaken by the District during 1949 are now in their final stages of construction, it was announced this month by Julian Hinds, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Metropolitan Water District.

The 6.84 mile-long line which will supply the West Basin Municipal Water District with its first taste of Colorado river water is estimated to be 99 per cent completed. Hydrostatic tests have been scheduled for this month. Contract completion date for the pipe line is April 1, 1950. Total cost is set at \$1,600,000.

The overall construction of the Victoria Street lateral is approximately 91 per cent completed. The last section of pipe in this 2.81 mile long line was laid Dec. 20. A special turnout tee was installed in the Palos Verdes feeder between Dec. 19 and 22 and work is in progress on the Compton and Long Beach delivery structures near Wilmington avenue. Cost of the line which is scheduled for completion May 1, 1950, is set at \$700,000.

The West Basin pipe line is 45 inches in diameter and has a capacity of 35,000,000 gallons per day. The Victoria Street lateral is 54 inches in diameter and has a capacity of 80,000,000 gallons per day.

Congressional Battle on Colorado Water Awaited

With the 81st Congress of the United States now reconvened in its second session it is expected that the focal point of Arizona's attack on California's share of the Colorado river will center in the House Public Lands Committee.

"Arizona will make a desperate attempt to pry its fantastic billion dollar project bill out of this committee in the near future," declared Franklin Thomas, Chairman of the Colorado River Board of California and Pasadena's representative on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District.

"Fortunately we have two Californians holding the line for us on the all-important Public Lands Committee," he said. Rep. Clair Engle (D) of Red Bluff and Rep. Norris Poulson (R) of



Last month the new Victoria Street lateral was connected with the Palos Verdes feeder and it was necessary to shut down the feeder line for a short time to make this connection. The occasion was utilized by Henry J. 'Hank' Mills, the District's Construction Engineer, and an equally intrepid photographer, who crawled for some distance into the underground feeder on their hands and knees to inspect its condition which they found to be excellent. Hank is shown in the photo holding a flashlight so the photographer could see to focus his camera.

Los Angeles were named as the pivotal pair.

The Poulson-Engle cooperation is typical, he said, of the bipartisan support that has been given to the Colorado River issue by all 23 California Congressmen, under the chairmanship of Rep. Harry Sheppard (D) of Yucaipa, and by Sens. Sheridan Downey (D) and William Knowland (R).

"This united backing", said Mr. Thomas, "has been of inestimable value to Reps. Poulson and Engle in their strategic positions on the Public Lands Committee, which now holds the Congressional spotlight. They have a tremendous responsibility as the front line guardians of a Colorado River supply line for the millions of people in Southern California."

Declaring that Reps. Engle and Poulson have done an "outstanding job" in blocking action on the Arizona bill so far, Thomas said that "we are confident that they will be equally successful in the strenuous months ahead."

"By having a Republican and a Democrat on the Committee we have the

added advantage of being able to get our case over to both sides," Mr. Thomas said.

Importance of the House Committee has been heightened following the action by a Senate Committee last year in endorsing the Central Arizona Project.

Meanwhile, on the home front, Mr. Thomas, along with other water officials and authorities, both in public and business life, urged accelerated action in the letter writing campaign by Southern Californians to their friends back East. These letters, he said, should ask that these friends and relatives write to their senators and representatives, requesting opposition to the Central Arizona Project, known as S. 75 and H.R. 934, and support for S.J. Res. 4 and H.J. Res. 3, which are the California-Nevada sponsored resolutions calling for a Supreme Court settlement of the Colorado River controversy.

They will not only be doing us a favor, but helping themselves also, Mr. Thomas pointed out, as the Central Arizona Project would be a direct lien against all the taxpayers in the nation.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



This was one of the many festive scenes which occurred just before the holidays in the employee-sponsored Christmas parties. The photographer took this picture at the party held by Los Angeles employees in the basement of the downtown office building on December 23. Here the festive board included turkey, ham, olives, salads, and many other delicacies.

Eddie Dussaman, station chief at Iron Mountain wasn't able to supply his usual bit of news this month. The reason: His teeth chattered so from the cold he couldn't talk (?) Eddie says the thermometer has been hovering as low as 25 degrees.

The New Year's Eve party at Iron Mountain was a big success. Eddie said that thanks to the planning of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Taylor, a pleasant evening was had by all. Dancing followed the luncheon in the camp mess hall.

* * * *

Santa Stork visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Jack Ketchum on the 24th, leaving a seven pound, one ounce baby boy. It is the Ketchum's first child and they have named it William Eugene. Congratulations! Mr. Ketchum is employed at the softening plant.

* * * *

Julian Hinds, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the District has announced that effective January 1, 1950, Ezra B. Rider has been designated Safety Engineer. It will be Mr. Rider's job to supervise and coordinate the work of the Safety Committees which were organized last year.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE MARCH OF
DIMS — WITH DOLLARS



It's rare indeed that you can ever get "Mac" and his crew together at one time long enough to pose for a picture, but here they are. Mac, of course, is William McCleary, General Foreman. He and his boys paused from the construction of the District's new experimental softening plant for this photo which shows (front row, left to right) Bob Gordon, Howard Caudle and Daniel Fogliasso. (Rear row, left to right) Mac, Walter Napier, Chester Westbrook and Floyd Mullen.

A smorgasbord dinner is tentatively planned at Gene Camp for February 14, Valentine's Day, according to Bill Ralph. The dinner is planned by the Gene Lake Employees' Club.

On January 10th, a baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Murphy at Gene Camp. The baby was named Ricky Lee and weighed six pounds, ten ounces. Dr. Russell, the Gene Camp resident physician, was in attendance.

Employee interest in the newly organized safety committees continues at a high level, according to reports from Gene Camp. Many things are being accomplished which will help to reduce employee injuries and increase safe working conditions.

Dan Gabele reports that a turkey shoot was held last month by members of the Gene Rifle Club. Many inquiries have been received concerning fishing at Lake Havasu, to which Dan replies "Fishing's good—but you can't catch any fish."

* * * *

Another little Twigg(s) been added to the family tree. We mean, of course, Vance Allen Twiggs, eight pounds, six ounces, who was born on December 17 to Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Twiggs at San Diego. Calvin is an Engineering Aide at Gene Camp. It is their first child. Congratulations!